

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/084,724	PELLETIER ET AL.
	Examiner Lin Ye	Art Unit 2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the application filed on 25 February 2002.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. The drawings filed on 25 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a. In specification, paragraph [0002], lines 7-8, replace "commonly-assigned, copending U.S. Patent Application, No. _____, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Determining Camera Movement Control Criteria", filed _____" by -- commonly-assigned, copending U.S. Patent Application, No. **09/759,486**, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Determining Camera Movement Control Criteria", filed **on January 12, 2001** --.
- b. In specification, paragraph [0018], line 8, replace "U.S. Patent Application, No. _____" by -- U.S. Patent Application, No. **09/759,486** --.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-10 allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Gutta reference (U.S. 6,894,714) discloses methods and apparatus for predicting events, such as the next speaker in an audio-visual presentation, comprising a predictive speaker identifier automatically receives and processes audio and visual signals, as well as analyzing the data of the image scene, and it used to automatically focus a camera and obtain images of the predicted speaker. The Norton reference (U.S. 5,704,836) discloses a command system notifies the subject by the flashing LEDs or other dedicated signal when the subject is not in properly positioned.

Neither Gutta nor Norton references, taken alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest the limitation, “ indicating means for providing an **advanced notification** to the subjects of the image scene that one of them is about to **become a target** of the camera system”, used in combination with all of the other limitations of the claims 1, 8 and 9.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
 - a. Gutta et al. U.S. 6,894,714 discloses methods and apparatus for predicting events, such as the next speaker in an audio-visual presentation.

b. Norton et al. U.S. 5,704,836 discloses a command system notifies the subject by the flashing LEDs or other dedicated signal when the subject is not in properly positioned.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lin Ye whose telephone number is (571) 272-7372. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lin Ye

August 19, 2005



DAVID L. OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT
EXAMINER